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Observational Study

Diagnostic and treatment utility of echocardiography in the management of the cardiac patient

Khalili A *et al.* Utility of echocardiography

Ariella Khalili, Jennifer Drummond, Neiman Ramjattan, Roman Zeltser, Amgad N Makaryus

Abstract

BACKGROUND

Echocardiograms are an incredibly useful diagnostic tool due to their lack of harmful radiation, the relative ease and speed with which they can be performed, and their almost ubiquitous availability. Unfortunately, the advantages that support the use of echocardiography can also lead to the overuse of this technology. We sought to evaluate the physician perceived impact echocardiography has on patient management.

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Doppler echocardiography is a **noninvasive test** that is commonly used to screen for PH and to help **guide management**. **Cardiac catheterization**, the standard method for assessing **pulmonary vascular disease**, is a much more invasive test and has been reserved for patients for whom noninvasive assessments are considered inadequate and for assessment of acute vasoreactivity, to guide **long-term therapy**.

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OBJECTIVE. The goal was to determine the clinical **utility** of Doppler **echocardiography** in predicting the presence and severity of pulmonary hypertension in patients with chronic lung disease who subsequently underwent **cardiac** catheterization. **METHODS.** A retrospective review of data for all patients <2 years of age with a **diagnosis** of bronchopulmonary dysplasia, congenital diaphragmatic ...

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